

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CANBER 06591 210746Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-11 /083 W  
-----063638 210749Z /21

R 210720Z AUG 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4087  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 6591

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG UNGA RQ  
SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF 24: PUERTO RICO

REF: (A) STATE 188247 (B) STATE 209121

1. VERY MUCH APPRECIATE OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY TO GOA  
OUR APPRECIATION FOR MORRIS' HELP IN THE COMMITTEE OF  
24/SUBCOMMITTEE ON SMALL TERRITORIES; FOREIGN OFFICE  
LIKEWISE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR OUR THANKS.

2. AUSTRALIANS HAVE BEEN QUITE CLOSE TO US ON PUERTO  
RICO IN THE COMMITTEE OF 24, AND WANT TO CONTINUE TO  
BE OF HELP. DFA HAS EXPRESSED ITS CONCERN THAT IT MIGHT  
BE IMPOSSIBLE THIS YEAR TO SIMPLY "DEFER" A DISCUSSION  
OF PUERTO RICO, AND THAT WE MIGHT BE FACED WITH THE NEED  
TO DEBATE A RESOLUTION. DFA POINTS OUT THAT US POLICY  
IN THE PAST HAS CONSISTENTLY BEEN TO REJECT THE IDEA THAT  
THE COMMITTEE OF 24 WAS COMPETENT TO DISCUSS PUERTO RICO.  
DFA WONDERS WHETHER US DECISION, IN THE FACE OF ALMOST  
CERTAINTY THAT THIS POSITION WILL BE DEFEATED THIS  
YEAR, WILL BE TO ACCEPT DEFEAT OR TRY TO WORK FOR  
"A SOFTER RESOLUTION." BY IMPLICATION, DFA IS WILLING  
TO SUPPORT WHICHEVER COURSE US CHOOSES, BUT DOES NOT

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WISH TO BE LEFT OUT ON A LIMB BY HOLDING FOR A HARDER  
POSITION THAN WE ARE PREPARED TO WORK FOR.

3. WITH RESPECT TO A RESOLUTION ITSELF, SHOULD IT COME  
TO THAT, WE HAVE BEEN ASSURED THAT AUSTRALIANS WILL BE GUIDED  
BY OUR ATTITUDE.

ALSTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMITTEES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 aug 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978CANBER06591  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780340-1355  
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**From:** CANBERRA  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** f9e45160-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 188247, 78 STATE 209121  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 1682067  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COMMITTEE OF 24: PUERTO RICO  
**TAGS:** PORG, RQ, UNGA  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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